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MINNESOTA

PUBLIC LIBRARY COMMISSION

LIBRARY NOTES AND NEWS

VOLUME 3

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ST. PAUL, SEPTEMBER, 1911.

No. 7

MARGARET J. EVANS, Northfield, Chairman. GRATIA A. COUNTRYMAN, Minneapolis. GEORGE E. VINCENT, Minneapolis. C. G. SCHULZ, St. Paul. WARREN UPHAM, St. Paul.

CLARA F. BALDWIN, Secretary.
MIRIAM E. CAREY, Organizer.
HELEN J. STEARNS, Librarian.
MARTHA WILSON, Library Visitor.

MINNESOTA LIBRARY ASSOCIATION.

The 19th annual meeting of the Minnesota Library Association will be held at St. Albans Beach, Lake Minnetonka, September 20-22, 1911.

Place. St. Albans Beach is a new hotel, located on St. Albans Bay near Excelsior, and easily reached from Minneapolis, either by trolley to Excelsior dock where the hotel launch meets its guests, or by the Minneapolis & St. Louis Ry. to Fairview station, three minutes walk from the hotel.

The hotel is new, attractively furnished, with all modern improvements, and many facilities for recreation, including boating, bathing, tennis and bowling. Surrounding it is an estate of 140 acres, comprising a model farm, which provides fresh fruit, vegetables, eggs, milk and butter for the hotel table, an apple orchard, and many acres of maple woods, where charming walks have been laid out, and which should be in heir full autumn glory at the time of the meeting. In this ideal location it is hoped that a number of those attending the meeting will plan to remain over Sunday for a post-conference rest.

Program. The first session will be held Wednesday evening, when Mr. George B.

Utley, Secretary of the American Library Association, will be the chief speaker. He will discuss Methods of reaching the people, and What the home, school and business man should expect from the public library. On Thursday morning there will be a round table on the subject of book selection. Some of the topics discussed will be How to determine the book needs of a small library. Selection of fiction, Per cent of children's books to buy, Foreign books, Book ordering and How to make reference work practical. Thursday afternoon will be devoted to the interests of trustees, and the chief topic for discussion will be Proper financial support. This topic was suggested by a library trustee, because it is the crying need of the majority of our libraries, which are not open to the public as many hours as they ought to be, and are giving ineffective service through lack of adequate support. Questions for discussion will be Per cent of taxation needed, How many towns have the limit allowed by the present law? Should the limit in Minnesota be increased? The library budget, including cost of service and administration, amount needed for books, and County and township co-operation.

During the latter part of the afternoon a trip around the lakes will be given by the Twin City Library Club, followed by a dinner at the hotel. It is expected that some brief after-dinner speeches will be given, followed by an informal address by President George E. Vincent of the State University, whose broad view of the educational problem, combined with his magnetic personality and ready wit assures us of an evening full of interest and inspiration.

On Friday morning, September 22d, the business session will be held, followed by a talk on The use of pictures in libraries, by Miss Marie A. Todd, Art Department, Minneapolis public library, and a story-hour symposium, conducted by Miss Louise M. Fernald, Rochester public library. A number of Minnesota libraries have undertaken the story hour, and librarians of such libraries will be asked to give the results of their experience.

The printed program will be mailed to every member of the association as early as possible in September. Most of the sessions will be informal and all are asked to be prepared to contribute to the discussions. Sessions will be short so that there will be ample opportunity for the informal conferences, which are the most valuable at such gatherings.

Attendance. Minnetonka was chosen as the meeting place for 1911, in the hope that this may be the largest meeting in the history of the association. At the 1907 meeting held in St. Paul and Minneapolis, 135 persons were registered, while the registration from Minnesota at the A. L. A. meeting the following year reached 144, of whom 92 were from the Twin Cities. The attendance this year should more than equal that of these previous conferences.

Many of our most progressive libraries pay the expenses of their librarian to the state association meeting, and this precedent should be followed by others. Trustees are asked to consider this matter, as the money spent in this way will bring large returns in new ideas and fresh interest in the Librarians in most instances are working entirely alone, and the opportunity to talk over their problems with fellow workers is of great benefit. A large representation of trustees is also hoped for, as the association needs their co-operation in its efforts to develope a strong esprit de corps among the library workers of Minnesota.

Rooms. A special rate of \$2.50 per day for room and board has been made for the library association. Outside the hotel proper, there are a number of delightful bungalows located in the woods about 10 minutes walk from the hotel. These will accommodate seven or eight people, and it is suggested that groups of librarians may arrange to make up parties to occupy these | talks on Administration, discussing the rela-

cottages. Further information may be obtained by addressing the Secretary of the Commission, but all reservations should be made directly with the hotel. In making applications, be sure to state that you will attend the library conference.

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Address Eliot V. Graves, St. Albans Beach. Excelsior, Minn.

SUMMER SCHOOL FOR LIBRARY TRAINING.

The 12th annual session of the library summer school was marked by its large registration and the uniform high standard of work done by the students. There were 22 librarians in attendance, including 6 librarians of small public libraries, 8 assistants in larger libraries, 3 school librarians, 4 assistants in college libraries, and one librarian of a special collection.

The school was under the direction of the Secretary of the Commission, and offered the usual elementary course of six weeks, Instruction in major subjects was given by members of the Commission staff as follows:

Cataloging-Fifteen lessons-Miss Carey. Classification, accession and shelf-list-Fourteen lessons-Miss Carey.

Book-selection - Twelve lectures - Miss Wilson.

Reference Work-Six lectures with seminars-Miss Wilson.

All instruction was supplemented by practice work, which was carefully revised, so that the students took home corrected samples of all records needed in the average small library. To meet the special needs of the various libraries represented, attention was given to the individual problems of each student, and the practice work in book-selection and reference work included preparation of lists which will be immediately useful to the librarians in their own libraries. Miss Wilson also gave a talk on the administration of the school library and its relation to the public library, and a lecture on binding which was followed by practice work in mending books and further illuminated by a visit to the Waldorf Bindery, where all the processes of bookbinding were clearly demonstrated.

Miss Baldwin gave talks on the A. L. A. and its work; Library Commissions, especially the Minnesota Commission, and four tion of the librarian to the board of trustees, business records and reports, rules and regulations, library housekeeping and library extension.

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The special lecturers scattered through the course in each case brought the inspiration of strong personalities, the benefits of ripe experience, and furnished a welcome change from the daily routine.

The first of these was Miss Maud van Buren, librarian of the Mankato public library, who followed Miss Wilson's lectures on selection of children's books with a talk on practical books for boys and girls, ways of getting the children to read the best books, and discussed informally various other library problems. Another talk by Miss van Buren was given on The work of the library for civic improvement.

Miss Margaret J. Evans, Chairman of the Commission, gave a most stimulating address on the Self-culture of the librarian, in which she gave many practical suggestions as to ways in which librarians can cultivate their own mental powers. Realizing that the librarian must also derive recreation from her reading, she recommended the short story for this purpose, showing how one's critical faculties may be sharpened by applying the canons of criticism to recreative reading. Miss Evans further urged the reading of poetry as the highest form of literature to refine the mind, quoting a number of examples in illustration of her point, and concluded with an appeal for the cultivation of various outside interests, since "he who is only a librarian, is no librarian."

The last of the visiting lecturers was Miss Mary E. Ahern, well known to most Minnesota librarians as editor of "Public Libraries." Miss Ahern gave two lectures, the first on Some demands of librarianship, the chief of which she enumerated as technical training, knowledge of books, and necessity for poise and balance, and the second on Business and personal relations, with many valuable practical suggestions as to conduct of correspondence, the use of the telephone, printing, reports, financial statements, hours and punctuality. Miss Ahern speaks with authority both as a librarian and a member of the public and combines rare common-sense with a broad view of the library's mission and a high ideal of the dignity of the library profession. She was a guest at library headquarters during her stay in Minneapolis, and joined the excursion to Northfield, so that the class had the advantage of further personal acquaintance outside the lecture-room.

The visits to libraries were again an important feature of the course. On St. Paul day, June 24th, the public library was first visited, where all departments were thoroughly inspected. The class then proceeded to the Capitol, where the State Library, the Historical Library and Museum and the library of the Tax Commission were visited. Owing to a threatening storm the picnic luncheon which was to have been held in Como Park was served in the Library Commission office.

Another afternoon was spent in the Minneapolis library, where Miss Countryman explained the organization of the system as she conducted the students through its various departments. An evening visit was paid to the attractive new Walker Branch on Hennepin Ave.

The final excursion was that to Northfield, July 22, on the new Dan Patch line. Although the line does not yet do credit to its name-sake in the matter of speed, the beauty of the country landscape, with its profusion of wild flowers, was some compensation for delays. Upon arrival at Northfield the party was met by the librarian and members of the board, and after dinner at the hotel, crossed the street to the beautiful new Carnegie building. There automobiles were waiting and after a somewhat hasty inspection of the library, a flying trip was made around the city and to St. Olaf's College, where the library was visited and the beautiful location and view of the city and country was especially en-Return was made to Scoville Memorial Library at Carleton College and finally all assembled on the porch of Miss Evans' charming home for a farewell cup

The Delta Gamma house, under the efficient management of Miss Emma Firestone, formerly a student at the library summer school, provided a home for the instructors and a large number of the class. A book party during the opening week of the course and some impromptu charades at a farewell party brought out many hitherto unsuspected talents.

Unusual attractions were offered this summer by the civic pageant, and the week of Shakespearian drama by Sothern and Marlowe, not to mention the circus and the usual summer concerts at Lake Harriet, all of which were generally enjoyed by members of the class, who showed a wholesome capacity for play as well as for hard work.

The following students were registered:

Mrs. Emily J. Akre, Libn., P. L., Madison.

Georgiana Ames, Asst. P. L., Minneapolis.

*Louise Bailey, Asst. P. L., Minneapolis.

Mabel E. Coates, Apprentice, P. L. Minneapolis.

Martha Chapin, Acting Libn., P. L., Owatonna.

Ida Ferguson, Apprentice, P. L., Minneapolis.

Eva Harrington, Libn., P. L., Janesville. Emma M. Hart, Libn., P. L., Spring Val-

Lura C. Hutchinson, Apprentice, P. L., Minneapolis.

Perrie Jones, Libn., P. L. Wabasha.

Martha C. Kessel, Asst. Grinnell College Library, Grinnell, Iowa.

Margaret Livingstone, Asst. Carleton College Library, Northfield.

Marguerite Matteson, Asst. James Memorial Library, Williston, N. D.

Lillian Reinholdson, Libn., H. S. Library, Biwabik.

Jessie V. Rhodes, Libn., State Board of Visitors, St. Paul.

Ruth K. Rice, Asst. Libn., Technical H. S., Washington, D. C.

Inga Rynning, Asst. P. L., Fargo, N. D. Pearl A. M. Stahl, Libn., Ohio Northern University, Ada, Ohio.

*P. A. Sveeggen, Asst. U. of M. Library, Minneapolis,

Genevieve Swain, Libn., H. S. Library, Hibbing.

Olga von Rohr, Asst., P. L., Winona. Jessie Whitman, Libn., P. L. Moorhead.

NOTES FOR LIBRARIANS.

Manual of Library Economy.

The A. L. A. Publishing Board has in preparation a Manual of library economy, written by authorities in various departments of library work. As each chapter is received from the author, it will be printed as a separate pamphlet, pending the appearance of the entire work. The following chapters are now ready. A. L. A. Publishing Board. Price, 10 cents each.

 American library history, by C. K. Bolton.

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- 2. Library of Congress, by W. W. Bishop.
- College and university library, by J. I. Wyer, Jr.
- Order and accession department, by F. F. Hopper.
- 20. Shelf department, by Josephine A. Rathbone.
- 22. Reference department, by E. C. Richardson.
- 26. Bookbinding, by A. L. Bailey.

Modern American Library Economy.

The A. L. A. Manual of library economy, noted above, should not be confused with the book on Modern American Library Economy as illustrated by the Newark (N. J.) Free Public Library, by John Cotton Dana. This is also being published in parts and describes in detail the methods used in a large library system. Orders may be given for the entire set and parts will be sent as they appear or parts will be sold separately. Address all orders to office of the Elm Tree Press, 189 Broad St., Newark, N. J.

The following is a list of pamphlets already published in this series:

Part 1. Lending Department-

- Registration Desk, 25c. Out of print, except in full sets.
- 2. The Charging System, 25c.
- Administration of Lending Department, 25c.
- Relations with the public in the Lending Department, 25c.
- Part 2. Booklists and other Library Publications, 35c.
- Part 3. The Business Branch, 72 pages, \$1.00.

Part 4. Advertising, 35c.

Part 5. The School Department.

- 1. School Department Room, 25c.
- 2. Course of Study for Normal School
 Pupils on the Use of a Library,
 75c.
- 3. Picture Collection, 35c.

Ward's Practical Use of Books and Libraries.

This book by Mr. Gilbert O. Ward of the Cleveland Public Library, covers a field in which there is a growing demand. It is an elementary manual for young persons, such as high-school students, on how to use books and libraries. It offers an outline to teachers, normal school students, high school

^{*}Attended cataloging lectures only.

librarians and others, who are interested in giving elementary library instruction. The following chapter headings give an idea of its scope: Structure and care of a book; Printed parts of a book; Card catalog numbering and arrangement of books in public libraries; Reference books; Magazines, including the use of periodical indexes; Use of the library in debating; Buying books; Specimen extracts from dictionaries. Boston Book Co. \$1.00 net.

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Directions for the Librarian of a Small Library.

By Zaidee M. Brown. Revised edition, 1911. Printed for the Free public library commission of Massachusetts and reprinted for the League of library commissions. This pamphlet does not duplicate Miss Plummer's Hints to small libraries, nor Miss Stearns' Essentials in library administration. Librarians of small libraries, especially if untrained, will find it very useful.

The Commission will have a supply of these for distribution, and will send a copy upon application to any librarian in the state.

Hints to Small Libraries.

A new edition of Miss Plummer's Hints to small libraries has recently been issued by the A. L. A. Publishing Board, containing much new material. Price, boards, 75 cents.

Subject Headings.

The third edition of the A. L. A. List of subject headings, about 420 printed pages, printed on one side of sheet only, is now in press, and will be ready by October 5th. Contains nearly three times the material of the second edition. Bound strongly in boards, reinforced. Price, \$2.50. Carriage free.

Subject Index to the A. L. A. Booklist, Vol. 7.

The subject index to volume 7 of the Book-list supplements the subject index to volumes 1 to 6 issued last year. A copy of the index will be sent with the September number of the Book-list to every library in the state, and should be carefully preserved with the Book-list files.

Guide to Reference Books.

A supplement to Kroeger's Guide to reference books, by Isadore G. Mudge, notes reference books which have been published since Miss Kroeger's book appeared in 1908.

Uniform with the Guide in size and style. A. L. A. Publishing Board. Price, paper, 25c.

Catalog for School Libraries.

A new edition of the List of books for rural and elementary schools, compiled by Martha Wilson, Supervisor of School Libraries, has been published by the Department of Public Instruction. The list is graded and fully annotated and the introduction contains valuable suggestions on the care and arrangement of school libraries. Librarians of public libraries will find it useful not only as an aid in selecting books for school use, but as a guide when called upon by teachers for assistance in arranging school libraries. As the fund for state aid is limited this year to rural and graded schools, the list will be distributed only to such schools through the county superintendents, but librarians desiring a copy for reference may obtain one upon application to the supervisor of school libraries.

Minnesota Executive Documents.

The Legislative Manual for 1911 and Executive Documents for 1909-10 are ready for distribution and have been sent by the document clerk to the larger libraries in the state. Any librarians who desire these publications and have not received them are requested to notify the Secretary of the Commission.

COMMISSION NOTES.

Annual Reports.

An amendment to the library law was passed by the Legislature of 1911, changing the time for the annual report to the end of July. This amendment was introduced by the Library Commission, with the approval of the majority of library boards in the state, for the reason that terms of library board members expire in July, so that boards are re-organized at this time, and it would seem to be the natural close of the library year. There is also more leisure for preparing the report than during the rush of mid-winter.

There will naturally be some confusion in making the change, and unless request is made for them, blanks will not be sent out from the Commission office this year, and no annual report will be asked for until July, 1912. Librarians who prefer to close the records and make a report at this time may obtain blanks upon application to the Secretary of the Commission.

Library Laws of Minnesota.

A new edition of The laws of Minnesota relating to public libraries, school libraries, and the public library commission as revised to date, has been compiled by the Commission and issued in leaflet form. This will be useful for reference to library boards, and those contemplating the organization of libraries. Copies may be obtained from the Commission upon request.

Books on Household Economics.

A list of books on Household economics in the traveling library collection has been issued by the Commission as one of the series of Traveling Library leaflets. The list comprises over 100 titles found in the reference division of the traveling libraries. The collection originated in the libraries made up for the Women's Auxiliaries of the Farmers' Institute in 1906, but has been augmented from year to year, and the present list now published has been revised by Mrs. Margaret J. Blair, Instructor in Domestic Art, School and College of Agriculture, and Miss Mary L. Bull, of the Division of Agricultural Extension.

These books are loaned in various ways:
(1) One or two books to any individual through the traveling library, or upon application signed by a school officer of the district. These may be kept for two months. Express or postage paid by the borrower.
(2) Groups of six books may be loaned with any traveling library without extra charge.
(3) Larger collections selected to cover the subjects considered, are loaned to any study club upon the usual conditions.

This list will be sent to any librarian or individual upon request.

Club Libraries.

Applications for special study libraries for the coming season now number 68, and most of these have already been sent out. A large number of books, as well as magazine clippings are still available, and librarians are asked to co-operate with the Commission in making all of its resources of use. If your clubs have not yet decided on their subject for study, it is hoped that they may be persuaded to choose a subject from the following list: Many libraries are now borrowing the books for the use of the club and paying the fees.

Libraries Available for 1911-12.

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American architecture and sculpture.

American literature.

China.

Drama-History.

English History.

English Literature-Survey.

- --- 17th century to date.
- --- Victorian age.
- Browning.Byron, Shelley & Keats.

Greece-History.

- Travel.

Greek art.

Household economics.

Italian art-Early renaissance.

Italian literature.

Rome-History and art.

Roman sculpture.

Russia.

U. S. History-Survey.

- Colonial.
- Revolution.
- Civil War.
- Civil War to present.
- 20th century.

U. S. Travel-West.

U. S. Island possessions.

Woman.

Exhibits.

The Commission now has three permanent collections of pictures which may be loaned to libraries for exhibit. The circuit for the coming season should be arranged as soon as possible and librarians desiring to borrow them are asked to make early application to the Commission, stating at what time they would prefer to have them.

British historical pictures—12 colored prints of typical scenes in British history. Attractive from an artistic standpoint, and of special interest to classes in English history.

Venice today—40 prints of sketches by F. Hopkinson Smith; 20 colored and 20 black and white.

U. S. Navy—24 water-color reprints of ships in the old U. S. navy.

FOR SALE OR EXCHANGE.

Austin Public Library—Mrs. Flora C. Conner, Librarian.

Minnesota Geological Survey. Final report. V. 1.

Minnesota in the Civil War. V. 1-2. (2 cops. of V. 1).

Who will pay the freight?

A set of Chambers' encyclopedia, 1892 edition, 10 v., bound in sheep, is offered to any library which will pay the freight charges. Apply to the Library Commission.

PERSONAL.

Miss Martha Wilson, who has for the last three years been in charge of the traveling library department of the Commission, has accepted the position of Supervisor of School Libraries under the Department of Public Instruction. The position was created by the last Legislature and its duties will comprise first, the compilation of the Catalog for School Libraries, from which books purchased through state aid must be selected. and further giving advice and assistance in the better development and use of school libraries.

Fortunately Miss Wilson has not entirely severed her connection with the Commission, but will still be connected with its staff as Library Visitor, and will visit public and traveling libraries in connection with her work for school libraries. It is hoped that this affiliation will promote closer co-operation between school and public library systems throughout the state.

During her three years of service for the Commission, the re-organization of the traveling library department has been completed and its reference work for study clubs and individual students has been greatly enlarged. She has also rendered most efficient service in the Summer School, and contributed much to all the work of the Commission through her original personality and fine enthusiasm.

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Miss Helen J. Stearns, Western Reserve Library School, 1905, whose library experience has included reference work in the Cleveland public library, and in the Legislative Reference Department of the Wisconsin Library Commission, and cataloging in the University of Wisconsin Library, has been appointed Librarian of the Traveling Libraries to succeed Miss Wilson, and began work with the Commission August 1st.

Miss Mary P. Pringle, assistant in the Commission office, was given three months leave of absence and has spent a delightful summer in Europe with a Bureau of University Travel party.

Miss Jane Schauers, Wisconsin Library

Commission office during the absence of Miss Pringle.

Miss Edith Frost, formerly librarian of the Willmar public library, who has recently returned from a year abroad, has been appointed children's librarian in the Seven Corners Branch, Minneapolis.

NEWS OF MINNESOTA LIBRARIES.

Anoka. The library has been re-classified and a card catalog begun, with the assistance of Miss Carey, the Commission organ-

Atwater. The High School library has been open to the public every Friday afternoon during the summer.

Austin. The Woman's Relief Corps has presented to the library a handsome 12-foot flag to adorn the flag staff over the main entrance on public days. On the day of its presentation and raising, a brief program was given on the library lawn.

The Floral Club has presented its annual gift of books.

Chatfield. An ice-cream sale for the benefit of the library netted \$22.15. Gifts from former residents of Chatfield are still being received, so that the library now contains over 1,800 volumes.

Dodge Center. The library has been removed to a well-lighted room on the ground floor, which has been refurnished for this purpose.

Eveleth. The school library has been open to the public each afternoon during the summer. There are over 2,000 books in the library and the circulation for the year ending in June was 7,976.

Fairmont. The library was closed afternoons during July and August, except Saturday, but was open every evening as usual.

Hastings. A public library board was created at Hastings about seven years ago and money has been appropriated each year for the purchase of books. Through an arrangement with the Board of Education, the public library books were placed with the school library and the school library was at the same time opened to the general public. For several years, however, the public library board has been inactive, as the terms of its members had expired and no appointments had been made. A new library board has recently been appointed, who with the aid of a committee of interested citizens School, 1908, has served as substitute in the | have taken a thorough inventory of the

library, rearranging the books in proper order, and taking out worn books and those in need of mending and rebinding. Some new books will be purchased at once and every effort made to bring the library to the attention of people so that its resources (about 5,000 v. all told) may be fully used.

Miss Stella Telford has been elected librarian.

The Secretary of the Commission met with the board recently for a discussion of plans for work and also spoke to the board of education for a few moments on the importance of the library.

International Falls. The public library, which was opened June 15th has proved to be a very popular institution. With about 500 volumes on the shelves, the circulation for July was 897, and the reading-room has been well patronized. Arrangements have been made for a lecture by President Vincent of the State University and about 200 new books will soon be added.

Janesville. The revised plans for the library building have been received and the library board has advertised for bids.

Kenyon. On the Fourth of July a number of public spirited citizens gave the use of their automobiles to convey passengers on a sight-seeing tour of the city for ten cents apiece. In this way \$31.40 was raised for the benefit of the library.

Le Sueur. Sufficient funds have been raised by the sale of membership tickets at \$2 each to continue the library.

Lindstrom. The council has made no appropriation for the library this year, but it is expected that money will be raised in some way to carry it on. The board members gave an entertainment early in August and cleared \$35.

Litchfield. Litchfield secured one of the agricultural schools recently established by the Putnam act, and to be prepared to meet the needs of this school, the library has purchased Bailey's Cyclopedia of agriculture for the reference department and also added a number of volumes on agriculture for circulation.

Little Falls. Arrangements have been made for furnishing and decorating the rooms in the basement of the library building so that they may be used for clubs and public meetings. The money will be raised outside the library fund, and for this purpose a delightful literary and musical pro-

gram was recently given at the home of Mrs. C. A. Weyerhaeuser.

Mankato. A public reception was given at the library August 14th by way of speeding the parting librarian, Miss Maud van Buren, and welcoming her successor, Miss Flora F. Carr, who began work August 15th.

Northfield. Recent valuable gifts to the library are Nelson's loose leaf encyclopedia, two pieces of Indian pottery and a large loan collection of the same, which makes a very effective decoration on the top of the book shelves.

Ortonville. The library has been moved from its outgrown quarters, and is now located in the room occupied by the city council.

Preston. At a special election called for the purpose, there was a large majority in favor of accepting the Carnegie donation of \$8,000 and the council has passed the necessary ordinance agreeing to furnish a suitable site and to provide the required annual tax levy for its maintenance, amounting to \$800.

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The building will adjoin the new city hall, and will be located on a corner facing the city park.

Robbinsdale. The library has been removed to a more convenient location for the reading-room.

St. Paul. Mr. D. C. Shepard has offered the city of St. Paul \$100,000 for a library building on condition that \$400,000 additional be given by citizens of St. Paul. Mr. J. J. Hill has now added \$250,000 to this offer, but with the same condition, that \$400,000 must still be donated by other citizens.

Sandstone. The library board has offered a prize to any patron of the library under 20 years of age who writes the best review of any book in the library, and a second prize to the boy and girl reading the largest list of best books during the summer. The prize in each case will be a book.

The library board has asked the council to increase the tax levy from \$400 to \$500 a

Taylors Falls. The library association gave an ice-cream social at the new pavilion in the State Park on July 1st, with a short program of musical and pantomime numbers.

Wabasha. The book cases in the public library have been remodeled so that they would better accommodate the books and also be more convenient to the public and the librarian.